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LETTER DATED 12 MAY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TOGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a communiqué dated 7 May 1999 issued by the Office of the President of the Togolese Republic following the seizure of power in Guinea-Bissau by the self-proclaimed military junta (see annex).

I should be most grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Roland Y. KPOTSRA

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Annex

Communiqué issued on 7 May 1999 by the Office of the President of the Togolese Republic on the Recent Developments in Guinea-Bissau

The current President of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Gnassingbé Eyadema, expresses his profound concern at the recent developments in the situation in Guinea-Bissau, characterized by a resumption of fighting on 6 May and the seizure of power on 7 May by the self-proclaimed military junta.

He strongly condemns this violation of the Abuja and Lomé Accords by the parties to the conflict.

He deplores the further loss of human life, the sufferings of the people and the further material damage caused by the fighting.

The current President of ECOWAS, who is monitoring the situation hour by hour, furthermore deplores the fact that the parties to the conflict have not respected the numerous appeals for restraint, which would have made it possible to continue the process of reconciliation for which the Government of National Reconciliation had been formed and which would also have made it possible to create a climate of trust favourable for organizing the general elections scheduled this year.